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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

ORIGIN/ACTION: EA-6

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OSD 33	USIA 10	NSA 3
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JUN 1 11 15 AM 1967

Action assigned to
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Date of Action
Action Officer
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RS/AA 6/1/67
ANALYSIS BRANCH

TO : Department of State
INFO: CINCPAC

FROM : Amembassy SAIGON

DATE: May 18, 1967

SUBJECT : Mrs. Tran kim Thoa Announces Presidential Candidacy

REF :

1. Saigon City Councilwoman Tran kim Thoa announced her candidacy for President to the Saigon Daily News, May 9.

2. Mrs. Thoa is a 44-year-old Southern Buddhist and one of the more colorful members of the Capital Council. She was nearly elected to the Constituent Assembly last September. In November 1966 she was reportedly one of the Southerners urging a hard regionalist opposition to the Ky government; later she made headlines by getting evicted from her printing house for failure to pay rent. The Prime Minister cancelled her eviction order.

3. Mrs. Thoa is Foster-Mother to the shoe-polishers Saigon District II; President of the Association for Protection of Tenants; Vice President of the Association of Parents of Elementary School Students of Viet-Nam, and an officer in various other social organizations.

4. Announcement of candidacy referred to the female majority in the Vietnamese population and the fact that Vietnamese women are not inferior in good will or capacity. Political program was usual collection of progressive and nationalistic generalities.

5. Mrs. Thoa was the sixth officially announced candidate. Her chances to win are negligible, but her attractive campaign picture (not a recent one) could draw some votes, probably away from other civilian or Southern candidates.

BUNKER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE: 10/5/81
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Drafted by: POL:LHHydle:ju
Clearances: POL:TJCHeavner 5/18/67
POL:TMReeknagel
Contents and Classification Approved by: POL - JACalhoun

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